

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COURT OF APPEAL ACT, CAP. C36, LAWS OF THE
FEDERATION OF NIGERIA, 2004 TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF JUSTICES OF
THE COURT AND PROVIDE FOR APPOINTMENT OF A MINIMUM OF SIX
JUSTICES IN EVERY JUDICIAL DIVISION OF THE COURT FOR SPEEDY AND
EFFICIENT JUSTICE DELIVERY AND TO IMPROVE CITIZENS' ACCESS TO
JUSTICE; AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

Sponsored by Hon. Onofiok Luke

[] Commencement

ENACTED by the National Assembly of the Federal Republic of
Nigeria as follows:

- 1 **1.** The Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C36, Laws of the Federation of
2 Nigeria, 2004, (in this Bill referred to as "the Principal Act") is amended as
3 set out in this Bill. Amendment of
Cap. C36, LFN,
2004
- 4 **2.** Section 1 of the Principal Act is amended by: Amendment of
section 1
- 5 (a) substituting for the word 'seventy' the words 'at least one
6 hundred and fifty'; and
- 7 (b) inserting after section 1, new subsections "(2)" - "(3)" and
8 renumbering the section accordingly:
- 9 "(2) The Court of Appeal shall have and exercise jurisdiction
10 throughout the Federation, and for that purpose, the President of the Court
11 may divide the Court into such number of Judicial Divisions as he deems fit;
- 12 (3) Every Judicial Division of the Court of Appeal shall comprise
13 of at least six Justices."
- 14 **3.** This Bill may be cited as the Court of Appeal (Amendment) Bill, Citation
15 2020.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to amend the Court of Appeal Act, Cap. C36, Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004 to increase the number of Justices of the Court and provide for appointment of a minimum of six Justices in every Judicial Division of the Court for speedy and efficient justice delivery and to improve citizens' access to justice.